Minutes of the Central Arizona Soaring League (CASL) General Meeting – January 26, 2004

CASL Board of Directors present: Garland Hanson, Erich Van Sanford, Aaron Lichtenwalner, Alan Metzger
Board Members Absent: - Iain Glithero, Chuck Wehofer
18 Members present

TREASURER’S REPORT – Not available

BYLAWS – *** The vote on the proposed Bylaws changes brought only 27 responses from the 119 current members. The Bylaws state that a 2/3 majority is required to change the Bylaws. After discussing how to get the required number of votes, it was decided that we will make voting for the Bylaws change, as well as other issues such as the approving the Annual Budget and electing Officers, will be part of the Membership Annual Renewal form and the forms will not accepted unless the forms are completely filled in. By this means we will be able to assure 100% voting. In order for a vote to count (and membership to be in place), the Renewal Form must be received by June 30 of each year. ***

FIELD LAYOUT – The new field layout has been well received.

SOUTHWEST CLASSIC (SWC) – February 6, 7, 8, 9 –

The consensus is that the 2004 Southwest Classic was a resounding success and that Darwin Barrie received wide acclaim from both contestants and CASL Members for a great job done.

Initial returns indicate that revenue exceeded expenses by $2,232.

Lessons learned include:

- Darwin Barrie is requested to be Contest Director for 2005.
- Jeff Sansoterra did a great job organizing the volunteers.
  - Distributing the workload and responsibilities worked very well and should set the model for future events.
- Paul Emerson volunteered to do Saturday and Sunday Registration again.
- Skip Richards volunteered to do Winches again.
- Scoring – went well. Need to publish scoring methods and rules for all scoring formats used by CASL at Club events. (This might help entice new fliers to participate in contests.)
- Volunteers and organizers should write up a summary of their activities and comments and send to the List Serve for distribution and comment.
- Hand Launched Golf (HLG)
  - Trees proximity not popular and may have contributed to only 6 participants out of 25 registered.
  - Carts versus no carts was not an issue for those that participated.
- Food was rather expensive, but available when needed and of good quality.
- Impound was great – thanks to the Adventure Hobbies Squad!
• Raffle
  o The trailer used for the Raffle work out very well
  o Need explicit instructions for the crew that works the Raffle Booth next year.

• Equipment
  o George Joy did a great job preparing the winch equipment – minimal problems.
  o Need to inventory all equipment in storage and shed and make a list of what should be taken to the SWC in the truck.
  o Need to check out the equipment earlier next year.
  o Generator worked out well.

• Signs – need to improve
• Field Layout was very popular
  o Spectator area near landing zones a plus
  o 2 Zones to take advantage of the wind direction highly praised.

• Landing zones
  o Configuration – worked out well, but requests from world class pilots suggest linearly graduated (graduated tape) scoring next year.
  o Paint – held up well, but need to reduce costs. Suggestion was made to investigate airless latex spray process.
  o Spectator area near landing zones a plus

• Entertainment should be investigated earlier. Some discussion of forming a CASL Band.
• A posted schedule of events (such as the Slow Stick Combat) would help participants.
• There was a suggestion for a noon Half Time Electric show/fun fly by the CASL e-Pilots.
• Support timing – Sept 20 – Website update, Registration Form available.
• Shirts – Art was great and $0 cost!
• Next discussion should begin at the August meeting.

NEW BUSINESS –

GUEST - Jim Armstrong, President of the Maine, Down East Soaring Club was a meeting guest. He invited CASL Members to fly with them when visiting the Maine area. They will supply a plane if necessary!

OFF RODEO PARK FLYING ACTIVITIES – It is reported that several fliers, including CASSL members, have been seen flying just off the Rodeo Park grounds. This is a dangerous practice and violates AMA Guidelines. There have been a number of aircraft losses recently and one cause could be these off field activities.
  • CASL members should fly at the Rodeo Park field or well away from it.
  • CASL Members seeing such “just off Field activities” should invite the pilots to join CASL and use the Rodeo Park field and frequency board.

SCANNER - The CASL owned ICOM R-2 Scanner can not be located. If anyone knows of it’s where abouts, please contact a CASL Officer, no questions asked. The Board of Directors is looking into new scanner options. Skip Richards has offered to donate a Pentium laptop to mate with a graphical spectrum analyzer if we need one.
LIBRARY - There was consensus to inventory all club assets and set up a process to track borrowed items. Paul Emerson volunteered to become CASL Librarian. Aaron Lichtenwalner has offered to donate a number of items to the Library. **Members, please send Paul your CASL items.**

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS – There was a discussion how formation of Special Interest Groups (SIG) would increase activity levels and member fun. Justin Ammon represented Bob Bayless’s interest in reviving activity in F5J (Electric Sailplane) flying. Members interested in becoming a SIG Focal Person, please put out a request for interest in the List Server. Other possible SIGs include:
- Slope
- Electric Warbird
- Slow Stick
- 3D
- Flying Pizza
- Hand Launch
- RES
- Etc.

CONTEST FOOD GOODIES - Garland Hanson proposed some of the proceeds from the monthly contests be put toward food. All agreed that would be very positive and would help improve participation.

COMBINING CONTEST CLASSES – The League of Silent Flight requires a number of participations in competitive events with 20+ fliers. There was discussion to add a third class, RES (Rudder, Elevator, Spoiler) to improve contest participation. Classes could be combined with fliers allowed to participate in 2 classes.

FUTURE TECH TOPICS – League of Silent Flight and Sailplane Contest formats and scoring

**TECH TOPIC – JUSTIN AMMON** brought a GWS Electric Helicopter to demo indoors. Unfortunately, altitude was limited to about ¼ inch due to battery issues.

Thanks Justin! Please contact Justin if you would like to purchase this factory built ‘chopper.

The meeting was adjourned.

Alan Metzger
Secretary
Central Arizona Soaring League